

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 DRC-01 /090 W

----- 118160

R 121156Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6700

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 14719

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TH

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SHUFFLE OF THAI AMBASSADORS

REF: FBIS D120855Z SEP 74

1. THE REFERENCED FBIS ITEM CONTAINS A FRONT PAGE STORY IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE "BANGKOK POST" OF SEPTEMBER 12 QUOTING "AN OFFICIAL SOURCE" TO THE EFFECT THAT THAI AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON, ANAN PANYARACHUN, WILL TRADE POSTS WITH THAI AMBASSADOR TO LONDON, KONTHI SUPHAMONGKHON. AT THE SAME TIME, THAI AMBASSADOR TO TOKYO DR. SOMPONG SUTCHARITKUN WILL BECOME A FULLTIME PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN. THE ARTICLE ALSO SAID THAT MR. SISAWAT PANKASIN WILL GO FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TO WELLINGTON.

2. COMMENT: WE ARE UNABLE TO CONFIRM THESE CHANGES AT THIS TIME, BUT WE HAVE HEARD THAT THERE WAS A RECENT HIGH LEVEL DISCUSSION IN MFA ON AMBASSADORIAL ASSIGNMENTS. IF ANAN IS REALLY GOING TO LONDON, THIS WOULD BE A CONSIDERABLE DEMOTION FROM HIS PRESENT DOUBLE ASSIGNMENT. WE KNOW THAT FOREIGN MINISTER CHARUNPHAN ITSARANGKUN NA AYUTTHAYA WAS NOT AT ALL PLEASED WITH  
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AMBASSADOR'S CONSULTATIONS HERE THIS SUMMER,

ESPECIALLY HIS HARDLY ANONYMOUS INTERVIEW WITH "THE NATION" (FBIS D010920Z JUL 74). ALSO CHARUNPHAN IS THOUGHT TO BELIEVE THAT ANAN IS TOO CLOSE TO FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER THANAT KHOMAN. MOREOVER, ANAN HAS BEEN OVERSEAS FOR MORE THAN TEN YEARS AND WAS REPORTED DURING HIS CONSULTATIONS TO WANT A POST BACK IN BANGKOK. THE DIFFICULTY IN THAT CASE WOULD BE THAT HE WOULD BE UNWILLING TO ACCEPT ANYTHING BUT ONE OF THE MOST SENIOR POSTS, AND POSES THEREFORE SOMETHING OF A THREAT TO THE PRESENT INCUMBENTS.

3. AS FOR KONTHI'S RUMORED ASSIGNMENT TO WASHINGTON, WE HAVE HEARD BOTH THAT HE IS BEING GROOMED FOR THE VERY TOPS JOBS IN MFA, AND THAT HE WOULD BE UNABLE TO COPE WITH THE SIMULTANEOUS DEMANDS OF BOTH WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK.

4. SISAWAT'S APPOINTMENT TO WELLINGTON, THOUGH NOT YET CONFIRMED EITHER, COMES AS NO SURPRISE AS A DIGNIFIED AND RESTFUL LAST POSTING PRIOR TO HIS RETIREMENT TWO YEARS HENCE. KINTNER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, AMBASSADORS, PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 SEP 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 JUN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** POSSIBLE SHUFFLE OF THAI AMBASSADORS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, TH, (ANAN PANYARACHUN), (KONTHI SUPHMONGKHON)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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